# March 28, 2013 meeting minutes Cambridge GLBT Commission

#### THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY, APRIL 25, 2013

Call to Order.

Kevin Shpritzer recorded these minutes.

The minutes of the February 28 meeting were approved.

Agenda for the March 28 meeting was accepted.

<u>Commissioners Present:</u> Steven Lee, Kevin Shpritzer, Aren Stone, Mike McKenna, Bob Parlin, Gregory Grays-Thomas, Caitlin Drechsler, Danny Venezia, Kristina Mastropasqua, Kara Smith, Rachel Oppenheimer, Neil Scannell, John Gintell, Lesley Phillips

<u>Commissioners Absent:</u> (excused) – Maggie Giles, Rebecca Caira-Davila, Mal Malme, Bill Barnert, Neil MacInnes-Barker

Commissioners On Leave: Dana Zircher

**Guests:** Chris Burke (Supt. of Police)

#### I. Welcome

# **II.** Ethics/Conflicts of Interest Training

a. Commissioners are reminded to complete the online ethics training and submit the certificate of completion to Ini Tomeu.

#### III. Police Report

- a. Dr. Jim Spencer, of the Middlesex County Sheriff's Department, called Supt. Burke and reported that 83 members of their management and command staff will be trained as GOAL trainers.
- b. In turn, 800 staff members will be GOAL trained.
- c. A proposal is being worked on with the Lowell Police Academy about getting them involved as well. Potentially, 50-70 new officers from various towns and cities in the area could be trained.
- d. To date, about 700 public safety personnel in the City of Cambridge have been trained (Harvard U. Police, MIT Police, Cambridge Police and Fire).
- e. Chris will look into training EMT personnel who are not involved in the fire or police department.

# IV. Brother Outsider film showing

- a. Showing was last Thursday.
- b. Food was great and we had over 100 people in attendance
- c. We'd like to get some pictures from the event on Facebook and our website.

#### V. Bayard Rustin Service Award

- a. Deadline for award nominations is set as April 22.
- b. We need to form a selection committee
- c. Gregory, Rachel and Bob will be on the committee.

### VI. Give-Aways

- a. Steven is ready to order items.
- b. We were a bit under budget for the Brother Outsider event.
- c. Steven wants firm numbers of the amount we can spend and will then get as many give-aways as he can.
- d. Steven would like to submit our order within the next few weeks.
- e. We will purchase a cart of some sort to help transport giveaways to and from events more efficiently than our current system.

### VII. Budget/Spending

- a. Anyone looking for reimbursement will need to fill out a W-9 form to become an official vendor of the city.
- b. We will look into whether mileage reimbursement is something commissioners can apply for

#### VIII. Youth on Fire

- a. Gregory reported that YOF gave us ideas how we can help them.
- b. One tangible idea was to find people to help them with fundraisers.
- c. Another idea was to help organize a community meal for LGBT youth during LGBT Youth Pride Week.
- d. Danny visited YOF to get more familiar with their organization and was very impressed.
- e. He suggests other commissioners try to visit if they can.
- f. We will keep YOF information on display at our table during outreach events.
- g. There was a lot of interest among commissioners about helping to organize events for YOF.

#### IX. Open Meeting Law Review

- a. This is a state law that applies to all public bodies, and we are a public body since we are a part of the city government.
- b. When there is a quorum, certain rules need to be followed.
- c. Agenda needs to be posted ahead of time.
- d. There are some issues about what can be done outside of meetings.
- e. For example, a public body cannot deliberate in private, outside of meeting times.
- f. We cannot have discussions and make policy decisions via email.
- g. We are supposed to publish our agenda in print. John will try to set that up.

### X. Upcoming Events

- a. Holocaust Commemoration April 11 at 7pm 8 Tremont St in Cambridge at Temple Beth Shalom
  - i. Mal and Gregory will represent the commission at this event.
- b. Harvard Square Mayfair Sun, May 5: noon 6pm

- i. Kevin will email Matt Frank from the Harvard Square Business Association this weekend as well as DPW.
- ii. He will be in touch with the commission about this.

# c. LGBT Film Festival - May 12

i. It would be nice to co-sponsor a film like we did last year.

# d. Youth Pride - Sat, May 18: 11am - 4pm

- i. We will set aside some money (probably \$100) to set up a table at this event.
- ii. Kristina will be looking into how to apply to be at this event, and Caitlin will help to organize volunteers to mind our table.

# e. Cambridge River Festival – Sat, June 1: noon – 6pm

- i. Kevin will organize this event with the Cambridge Arts Council and DPW.
- ii. It would be nice to have our table next to other commissions' tables.

#### f. Pride Brunch – Sat, June 8: 9:30am – 11:15am

- i. We need a small committee to work on this event.
- ii. The Mayor's office will likely take care of most of the arrangements.
- iii. Committee will need to connect with the Mayor's office.
- iv. Kara, John and Lesley volunteered to be on the committee, and will decide on the recipient of the Recognition Award.
- v. We'd like to help boost attendance at this year's event by actively promoting with postcards at outreach events. We will set aside \$150 for printing.

# XI. Youth After School Project

- a. There's been talk of doing an informal needs assessment.
- b. Gathering this data would help get the ball rolling on getting training into the schools.
- c. Caitlin is going to help create a simple, maybe ten question, survey.
- d. Neil S. wants us to get involved with the new middle schools, which can be a very tough time for LGBT youth.
- e. John, Rachel, Neil S., and Caitlin will meet in the coming weeks to discuss this project.

#### XII. Seniors Project

a. Aren will develop a questionnaire for senior agencies after April.

#### XIII. Making a PSA

- a. Several commissioners met recently
- b. Decided we make a PSA.
- c. John started looking into when we can schedule this.
- d. May 1 & 2 are PSA day at CCTV, but we'll probably have ours scheduled for later in the year.
- e. The details of how the PSA will look are yet to be decided.

# XIV. Social Media Usage

- a. Facebook page is much more active, which is very good.
- b. Everyone is encouraged to continue to post interesting articles.
- c. Kristina has been tweeting often, and we have 30 additional followers since the *Brother Outsider* movie showing.

- d. She has been tweeting at other organizations as well as Denise Simmons, which has been helpful because they re-tweet our posts.
- e. She has also been re-tweeting other organizations' posts.

# XV. Google Drive/Groups

- a. The commission has completed the transition to Google from Yahoo.
- b. We may need to adjust how we store documents to keep them secure.
- c. Caitlin offered to take on a monthly job of managing our docs.

# XVI. LGBT Elders in a Changing World conference

a. Aren, John and Danny attend this conference.

# XVII. GBLT Domestic Violence Conference

a. Danny attended this conference.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:30pm